

What is Claimed is:

1. A self-service terminal comprising:

- a user interface;
- a terminal application for controlling the user interface;
- a link to a remote server storing a server application for issuing to the terminal application requests for using the user interface, wherein a user of the terminal is able to access the server application from the terminal, and the server application is able to use one or more facilities provided by the user interface.

2. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the user interface includes user input means, a display, and at least one other peripheral device.

3. A terminal according to claim 1, further comprising means for receiving files conforming to a page description language.

4. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the server application is executed on the remote server.

5. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the server application is executed on the terminal.

6. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the remote server implements session tracking to maintain an association between the server and the terminal.

7. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the remote server provides a session object for each terminal, so that the session object maintains information about the application flow being executed by that terminal.

8. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal application monitors the terminal usage during operation of the third party application to ensure that the user is still present.

9. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal provides a port to which the server application can send requests.

10. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal provides the server with a response indicating the status of a request.

11. A self-service terminal system comprising:

a plurality of self-service terminals, each terminal having a terminal application; and

a remote server interconnected to the plurality of self-service terminals, the remote server storing a server application comprising a third party application flow, so that users of the terminals are able to access the server application from the terminals, and the server application is able to issue requests to the terminal applications to use any peripheral devices incorporated in the terminals.

12. A system according to claim 11, further comprising an authorization server operable to authorize transactions requested by users of the terminals.

13. A self-service terminal operable to select one of a plurality of user interface applications for presentation to a user, at least one user interface application being controlled by the owner of the terminal, and at least one user interface application being controlled by a third party, wherein the user interface application controlled by the third party is operable to request use of facilities controlled by the terminal.

14. A method of hosting a third party application on a self-service terminal having a terminal application, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a link to a server application stored on a remote server;
presenting a user with the option of interacting with the server application;
in response to a user requesting interaction with the server application,
executing the server application and presenting the server application to the user; and
monitoring the server application for requests to use facilities controlled by
the terminal application.

15. A method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

monitoring the user's interaction with the server application to detect absence
of the user.

16. A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of:

upon detecting absence of the user, halting the server application, and
presenting the terminal application.